

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 (Cancelled)

Claim 38 (New) A targetable diagnostic and/or therapeutically active agent comprising a suspension of a reporter comprising gas-filled microbubbles stabilized by monolayers of film-forming surfactant in an aqueous carrier liquid, and

wherein the gas comprises a halogenated gas or a halogenated low molecular weight hydrocarbon, and

said film-forming surfactant comprises one or more phospholipids selected from the group consisting of phosphatidylcholines, phosphatidylglycerols, phosphatidylinositols, phosphatidylserines, phosphatidylethanolamines and phosphatidic acid, and

said agent comprising a lipid attached to a linker portion for covalent coupling to one or more vector molecules, and

where said vector(s) binding to receptors/targets at sites associated with angiogenesis, inflammation, atherosclerotic plaques and/or thrombi,

said linker portion comprising a peptide linker portion.

Claim 39 (New) An agent as claimed in claim 38 wherein the halogenated gas comprises a perfluorinated ketone, perfluorinated ether, partially halogenated hydrocarbon or perfluorcarbon and/or mixtures thereof.

Claim 40 (New) An agent as claimed in claim 38 wherein the halogenated gas comprises sulphur hexafluoride or a perfluoropropane, perfluorobutane or perfluoropentane.

Claim 41 (New) an agent as claimed in claim 38 further comprising a therapeutic compound.

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Claim 42 (New) An agent as claimed in claim 41 wherein said therapeutic compound is an antineoplastic agent, blood product, biological response modifier, antifungal agent, hormone or hormone analogue, vitamin, enzyme, antiallergic agent, tissue factor inhibitor, platelet inhibitor, coagulation protein target inhibitor, fibrin formation inhibitor, fibrinolysis promoter, antiangiogenic, circulatory drug, metabolic potentiator, antitubercular, antiviral, vasodilator, antibiotic, anti-inflammatory, antiprotozoan, antirheumatic, narcotic, opiate, cardiac glycoside, neuromuscular blocker, sedative, local anaesthetic, general anaesthetic or genetic material.

Claim 43 (New) An agent as claimed in claim 41 wherein said therapeutic compound is covalently coupled or linked to the reporter through disulphide groups.

Claim 44 (New) An agent as claimed in claim 38 comprising a vector which binds to endothelin receptors.